

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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R 192216Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS STATE 255182

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, CI

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN LAURA ALLENDE

1. FOR EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, THERE FOLLOWS NOVEMBER 16 EXCHANGE TELEGRAMS BETWEEN SENATOR JAMES ABOUREZK AND DEPARTMENT.

2. ABOUREZK TO DEPT: QUOTE. I AM CONCERNED WITH THE CONDITION AND WHEREABOUTS OF SRA. LAURA ALLENDE DE GOSSENS AND HER DAUGHTER MARIANNE, WHO WERE ARRESTED IN THE LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER. SINCE THEN GRAVE DOUBTS HAVE ARISEN OVER THE HEALTH OF SRA. ALLENDE, AND THE TREATMENT GIVEN TO HER AND HER DAUGHTER BY THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT. THERE HAS BEEN NO INFORMATION GIVEN AS TO HER STATUS. I WOULD APPRECIATE AN IMMEDIATE REPORT FROM YOU AS TO THE FORMAL CHARGES AGAINST SRA. ALLENDE, HER WHEREABOUTS, AND HER PHYSICAL CONDITION, AND WHEN SHE WILL BE RELEASED OR WHEN FORMAL LEGAL PROCEEDINGS WILL BEGIN.
SENATOR JAMES ABOUREZK

3. DEPT. TO ABOUREZK: QUOTE. I AM RESPONDING TO YOUR TELEGRAM OF TODAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1974, IN WHICH YOU REQUESTED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RECENT ARREST IN CHILE OF LAURA ALLENDE, SISTER OF THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THAT
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COUNTRY. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING FROM PUBLIC INFORMATION

RELEASED BY THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES THAT MRS. ALLENDE WAS
DETAINED AS A RESULT OF INFORMATION RECENTLY UNCOVERED
CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHILEAN EXTREME LEFTIST
ORGANIZATION KNOWN AS THE MIR, OF WHICH HER SON, PASCUAL
ALLENDE, IS A LEADING MEMBER. WE DO NOT KNOW ON WHAT
FORMAL CHARGES SHE IS BEING DETAINED BEYOND THE ANNOUNCE-
MENT THAT SHE IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN MIR
ACTIVITIES, AND THAT A SEARCH OF HER HOME ALLEGEDLY
UNCOVERED A NUMBER OF EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, AND OTHER
MATERIAL REPORTEDLY IMPLICATING HER. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT
ACTION THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES MAY TAKE IN THE DISPOSITION
OF HER CASE. SINCE WE HAVE NO RELIABLE INFORMATION, WE
ARE UNABLE TO COMMENT ON THE STATUS OF HER HEALTH. WE
WILL BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH ANY ADDITIONAL INFOR-
MATION CONCERNING MRS. ALLENDE AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE
TO US. THE DEPARTMENT ATTEMPTED TO TELEPHONE YOUR OFFICE
THIS MORNING TO RELAY THE FOREGOING INFORMATION TO YOU.
SINCERELY, LINWOOD HOLTON. UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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